## INCOMING TELEGRAM Approved For Rethans 2001/29/03 - FUR - RETHE 3-500 3500002

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US IA NSC REF: TOPL A 145

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DIRECTING COMMITTEE OF ATLANTIC INSTITUTE IS NOW EXPECTED ANNOUNCE AMBASSADOR LODGE'S SELECTION AS DIRECTOR GENERAL ON NOVEMBER 8. NATO SECRETARIATE YESTERDAY MADE AVAILABLE SPACE IN PRESS AREA FOR INFORMAL A. I. COMMITTEE MEETINGS WHICH LED TO FLURRY OF CONCERN THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF LODGE'S POSITION WOULD BE MADE UNDER NATO "AUSPICES". WE HAVE ASSURANCES LODGE'S ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE AT TEMPORARY A. I. HEADQUARTERS AT HOTEL CRILLON.

RUMORS CIRCULATING HERE OF LAST MINUTE EFFORTS BY SMALL BELGIAN CLIQUE AND MILAN INSTITUTE INTERESTS TO PREVENT LODGE ELECTION ARE NOT CONSIDERED SERIOUS.

FINLETTER

**GDW** 

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